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WHERE ARE THE HOME RUN HITTERS?

112 LESS HOME RUNS IN NATIONAL IN 1917 THAN IN 1911.

What has become of the home run hitter?
Major league records for 1917 show that but two batters were able to collect more than ten circuit clouts during the year. These records also show that the American league did not break into this column, the leading home run drivers being Cactus Cravath and Dave Robertson, each of whom garnered twelve. Wally Pipp, the leading home run hitter of the American, collected but nine.

The question of why it is easier to get home runs in the National than in the American league is one which has caused a lot of discussion and one which probably never will be settled. The short right field fence at Philadelphia is one of the reasons most often advanced, but that alone certainly would not give the National league the eminence it has reached during the last few years in this department.

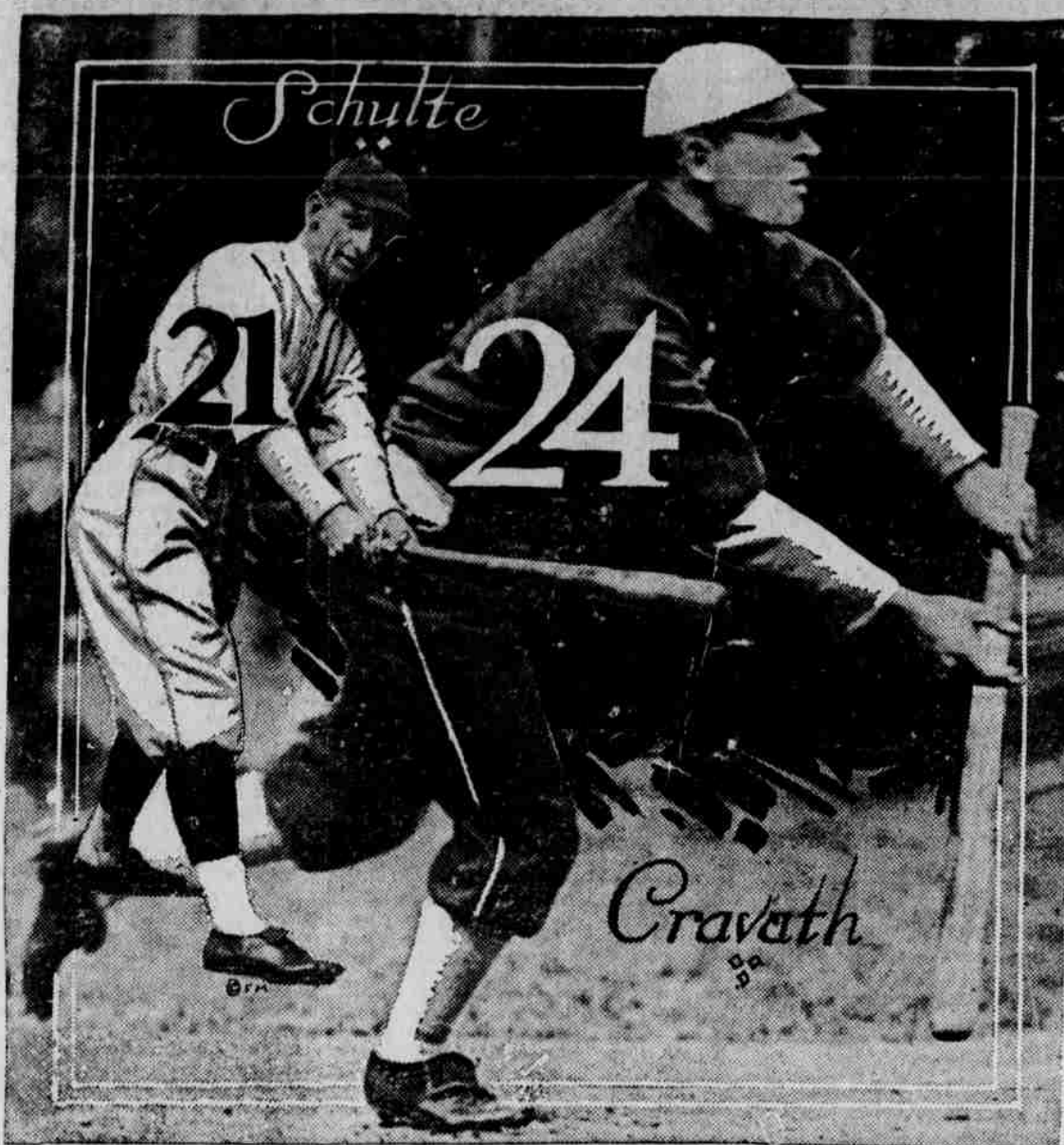
Taking the figures from 1911 to date, we find that but two American league batmen have been able to break into the ten home run class. Frank Baker did it twice—in 1912 and 1913, collecting ten the first year and twelve the second. Wally Pipp rapped out eleven in 1914.

During those same years fourteen National league batmen crossed the line making ten or more home runs for a total of thirty-one times.

The following shows how National league batmen have broken into this class in late years:

1911—Schulte, 21; Luderus, 16; Sherwood Magee, 15; Doyle, 13; Wilson, 12; Hoblitzel, 11; Merkle, 10. Total, 7 men for 98 home runs.

1912—Zimmerman, 14; Schulte, 12; Merkle, 11; Wilson, 11; Houser, 11; Luderus, 10; Doyle, 10. Total, 7 men



Gavy Cravath and Frank Schulte, who have set modern records for home-runs, Cravath having made 24 in 1915 and Schulte 21 in 1911.

for 73 home runs.
1913—Cravath, 19; Luderus, 18; Saler, 14; Magee, 11; Wilson, 10. Total, 5 men for 73 home runs.
1914—Cravath, 19; Saler, 18; S. Magee, 15; Luderus, 12. Total, 4 men for 64 home runs.
1915—Cravath, 24; Williams, 13; Schulte, 12; Becker, 11; Saler, 11. Total, 5 men for 71 home runs.
1916—Robertson, 12; Williams, 12; Cravath, 11. Total, 3 men for 35 home runs.
1917—Cravath, 12; Robertson, 12. Total, 2 men with 24 home runs.

The table shows that from 1911 the National league home run record fell from seven men breaking into the class of those making ten or more a year to two in 1917 and the total home runs made by these men fell from ninety-eight to twenty-four.

In the same league the total number of home runs during the season fell from 314 in 1911 to 202 in 1917, a loss of 112 homers.

In these years Cravath broke into the ten home run class five times, Luderus four, Saler, Magee and Wilson each three, Doyle, Schulte, Williams, Merkle and Robertson each two and Becker, Houser, Zimmerman and Hoblitzel each one. Schulte made ten homers in 1910.

Only two have gone above twenty home runs in a season, Cravath, with the master mark of twenty-four in 1915, and Schulte with twenty-one in 1911.

The figures show that something has happened to the home run hitters. Just what it is will give the fans a chance for many an argument in the hot stove league this winter.

BIG LEAGUE SCHEDULE TO BE SIGNED IN GEORGIA

Chicago, Jan. 4.—The 1918 schedules of the two major leagues will be drawn up in Dover Hall, Ga., by President Johnson, of the American league, and Barney Dreyfuss, of the Pittsburgh Nationals. It was announced today. Johnson and Dreyfuss will go to Dover Hall immediately after the meeting of the national commission in Cincinnati next Monday.

DAM OF DAN PATCH DIES AT OXFORD, IND.

Zelica, name of the famous pacer, Dan Patch, 1:55 1-4, died on the first day of January at Oxford, Ind. She was not far from 30 years old. She was the dame of several foals, but none comparable to Dan Patch.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Effective Jan. 6, 1918, train No. 2 will leave Terminal station, Chattanooga, Tenn., 6:35 a.m., carrying passengers for Rome, Coatsworth, Griffin and intermediate points.
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ONLY THREE BRAVES OF 1914 WILL BE WITH TEAM IN 1918

The sale of Joe Bush, Wally Schang and Amos Strunk by Connie Mack brought fans to their feet with the exclamation that of the great Mackian machine of 1914 only one, Stuffy McInnis, was left with the Athletics.

But few fans have noted the change that has gone on within the Boston Braves during the same years.

The Braves, the most spectacular team in baseball, the club which defeated the Athletics in four straight games and caused Connie to dismember his team, will include in 1918 only three of the men who made up the winning aggregation of four years ago.

Rudolph and Tyler, two of the three pitchers who made possible the campaign of 1914 and who helped trounce the Athletics, and Red Smith, the third baseman who played throughout the season but was in the hospital with a broken ankle at the time of the world's series, are the sole survivors.

Stallings concluded the wrecking of his club a few days ago when he asked for waivers on Pitchers Reulbach and Pat Ragan, Infielder Eddie Fitzpatrick and Outfielder Joe Kelley.

The Braves of 1914 included Pitchers Tyler, Rudolph, James, Hess, Davis, Crutcher and Cochran; Catchers Gowdy, Whaling and Mitchell; Infielders Schmidt, Evers, Maranville, Smith and Deal, and Outfielders Connelley, Whited, Cather, Mann, Moran and Devore, and Duguey and Gilbert, utility men.

Gowdy and Maranville have joined the colors. James was never able to pitch after 1914, on account of a bad arm. Hess, Crutcher, Davis and Cochran have all fallen behind the major league pace. Schmidt retired from baseball. Evers was sent to Philadelphia, and has received his unconditional release. Deal has dropped out. Whited is with the Phillies. Mann is with the Cubs. The rest of the outfielders and the other two catchers have drifted minorward.

Since 1914 Stallings has acquired and disposed of Reulbach, Sherwood Magee, Joe Wilhoit, Joe Kelley, Frank Allen, Edgar Collins, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Blackburn, Massey, Chappelle, Tumbly and Crum. The Braves of 1918 will surely be a brand new outfit.

SPORT SPLINTERS

We'll Bet on Mike.
Mike O'Neill may boss Cards, says a headline. We don't know anything about him, but we'll bet if a man by



the name of Mike O'Neill started in to boss anything he'd make a pretty good job of it, even if he had to use a pick handle.

After disappearing since Labor day, Jack Curley had a good chance to make a dramatic entrance when Fred Fulton flivvered.

Ho Hum.
About the only difference between Fulton and Carl Morris seems to be



that one used to be a plasterer and the other a railroad fireman.

Penn has been able to win something without the aid of Howard Berry. It happened to be a chess tournament.

The wise fighter is one who hires a sprinter for his manager. Then there is no question about who gets to the telegraph office first after a fight.

TESREAU SIGNS WITH NEW YORK NATIONALS

New York, Jan. 4.—The New York National league club announced yesterday that Charles M. Tesreau, veteran pitcher of the team, had signed a contract for 1918. Tesreau is the first major league player to sign a 1918 contract.

Stomach Troubles.
If you have trouble with your stomach, you should try Chamberlain's Tablets. So many have been restored to health by the use of these tablets and their cost is so little, 25 cents, that it is worth while to give them a trial. (Adv.)

Soon Over His Cold.
Everyone speaks well of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy after having used it. Mrs. George Lewis, Pittsfield, N. Y., has this to say regarding it: "Last winter my little boy, five years old, was sick with a cold for two or three weeks. I doctored him and used various cough medicines but nothing did him much good until I began using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He then improved rapidly and in a few days was over his cold."—(Adv.)

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The bowels are the sewerage system of the body. You can well imagine the result when they are stopped up as is the case in constipation. As a purgative you will find Chamberlain's Tablets excellent. They are mild and gentle in their action. They also improve the digestion.—(Adv.)

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How I Feel About It

A father's truly remarkable article, telling exactly how thousands of other fathers have felt, feel now and will feel. Every father and mother should read this "confession," in which thousands will see themselves. It is in the January Ladies' Home Journal.

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